



#11/Election
S. Ross
1-9-03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No.: 086531-0130

In re patent application of
Mikihide Nakamura, et al.

Serial No.: 09/978,308

Group Art Unit: 3641

Filed: October 17, 2001

Examiner: R. J. Palabrica

For: Reactor Core and Method of Operating Nuclear Reactor

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated May 24, 2002, Applicants hereby elect the claims of **Group I, claims 1-10**, for prosecution in the subject application.

Upon allowance of the elected claims, Applicants will be permitted to request rejoinder of process claims 11-13 in accordance with MPEP 821.04 and *In re Ochiai*, 71 F.3d 1565 USPQ2d 1127 (Fed. Cir. 1995).

In addition, the Examiner has requested an election of species, and Applicants respond as follows: With respect to numbered **Paragraph 2**, Applicants elect **species A**, and to numbered **Paragraph 3**, Applicants elect **species F**. Claims 1-6 and 8-10 are readable on the elected species with claim 1 being generic as indicated by the Examiner.

Receipt of the initial Office Action on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 24, 2002

Richard L. Schwaab

Registration No. 25,479

REG.
No. 40,888

FOLEY & LARDNER
3000 K Street, N.W., Suite 500
P.O. Box 25696
Washington, D.C. 20007-8696
(202) 672-5300

Examiner received this
response only on 1/10/03.